

Press Release

Office of Mayor Sam T. Liccardo

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Mayor Celebrates the Success of Summer Youth Employment Program

Programs Provided Training and Jobs to the City's At-Risk Youth

San José, CA - Mayor Sam Liccardo today was joined by elected officials, Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force representatives, and corporate sponsors to celebrate the youth that finished the first Youth Works summer employment program. Youth ages 14 and up, many from San José's target crime hot spots, participated in the six week program that provided them with a week of job training and over a month of work experience at City libraries, parks, community centers, non-profits and other local employers.

"Resumes, not rap sheets. It is my firm belief that if we show our youth a path to a job or college, then they will stay off the path that leads to violence or prison," said Mayor Sam Liccardo. "The youth who are completing 'San Jose Works' today are proof that expanding access to job training and youth employment makes San José a safer more prosperous city."

Approved in the Mayor's March Budget Message, the City provided \$1 million in funding to the program. The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors also provided \$1 million. In total over 600 youths participated in a summer jobs program. Of those 600, the City of San José funded 207 participants in what the Mayor coined "San Jose Works," with 197 of those youths completing the program working at City libraries, parks, community centers non-profits located throughout San José.

In addition to "San Jose Works" and Santa Clara County Youth Works participants, about 100 youth were able to participate in a Youth Works programs at local corporations including Target and Microsoft.